

REMARKS

The examiner considers the claims to be directed to four separate inventions or groups of inventions and requires restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group I, claims 1-8, drawn to a method for screening and identifying small molecules that transactivate a neurotrophin receptor and mediate neuronal cell survival comprising using assay A.

Group II, claims 1-4, 6-8 and 11-12, drawn to a method for screening and identifying small molecules that transactivate a neurotrophin receptor and mediate neuronal cell survival comprising using assay B1;

Group III, claims 1-4, 6-10, drawn to a method for screening and identifying small molecules that transactivate a neurotrophin receptor and mediate neuronal cell survival comprising using assay B2; and

Group IV, claims 1-4 and 6-8, drawn to a method for screening and identifying small molecules that transactivate a neurotrophin receptor and mediate neuronal cell survival comprising using assay C.

In order to be responsive, applicants elect Group I, presently comprising claims 1-8, with traverse. Traversal is based on the amendment to claim 1 to recite that the claimed method requires assay A but may also be performed in combination

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with either or both of assay B (assays B1 and B2 of Groups II and III) and assay C (Group IV). Accordingly, as assays B and C are optional and used merely to confirm the results of assay A in the present claims as amended, applicants believe that the requirement for restriction is now moot and all presently pending claims 1-12 should be examined together.

Withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all presently pending claims 1-12 are therefore respectfully requested.

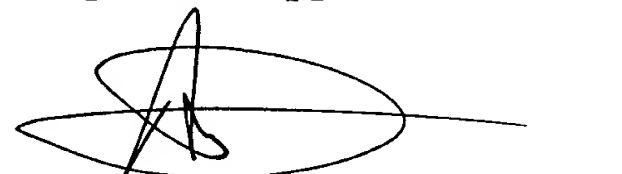
For purposes of search and examination, applicants wish to point out that the presently claimed method is for screening and identifying small molecules that transactivate, rather than directly activate, a neurotrophin receptor and mediate neuronal cell survival.

Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Allen C. Yun', written over a horizontal line.

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